

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY S/CCT: RPMYERS:NWH

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AF/E - MR. COOTE (DRAFT)

M - MR. EGAN

DOD/ISA - MAJ NAFTZINGER (DRAFT)

OPNAV - CAPT HANKINS (DRAFT)

S/S - FVORTIZ

----- 114211

P 302213Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ASMARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

OSD

CNO

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

NAVCON UNIT ASMARA

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT:CISCO III

REF: (A) KHARTOUM 234 (NOTAL); (B) STATE 18849 (NOTAL)

1. RE PARA 3, REF A, CISCO DESIRES THAT CISCO EMPLOYEES,

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AFTER THEIR RETURN TO US CONTROL, REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL MR.

BAKER, CISCO PROJECT MANAGER IN ASMARA, ARRIVES.

2. THIS DECISION IS PREDICATED ON BELIEF THAT, AFTER SO MANY MONTHS OF CAPTIVITY, MEN WILL NEED AT LEAST SEVERAL DAYS TO REST AND RECUPERATE. SECONDLY, CISCO WANTS BAKER TO BE ESCORT FOR ITS EMPLOYEES AND TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COVERING ALL ATTENDANT EXPENSES.

3. FURTHER, IT IS NOT CLEAR TO CISCO REPS WHETHER HARRELL WILL WISH TO PROCEED TO FRANKFURT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROPOSED SCENARIO (REF B) OR RETURN TO ETHIOPIA. HIS DECISION WILL PROBABLY DEPEND LARGELY UPON PLANS OF HIS ETHIOPIAN WIFE, WHO IS STILL IN ASMARA. SHOULD HARRELL WISH TO RETURN TO ETHIOPIA, CISCO INTENDS TO HAVE BAKER TERMINATE HIS EMPLOYMENT. CISCO REP STATES THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL CISCO AGREE TO RETURN HARRELL TO ETHIOPIA, NOR WILL IT CONSIDER HIM FOR RE-EMPLOYMENT AT USN COMMUNICATIONS

STATION IN ASMARA SHOULD HE RETURN THERE ON HIS OWN. WE ASSUME BAKER WILL DISCOURAGE HARRELL FROM RETURNING TO ETHIOPIA, BUT AS PRIVATE CITIZEN HE WILL OF COURSE BE FREE TO MAKE HIS OWN DECISION.

4. RE PARA 6 REF B, SHOULD MEN INSIST ON ISSUING PRESS STATEMENT OR MEETING WITH PRESS AT RELEASE POINT, EMBASSY SHOULD OF COURSE ENDEAVOR TO ENSURE THAT THEIR COMMENTS ARE APPROPRIATE AND DO NOTHING TO IMPAIR PROSPECTS OF RELEASE OF ANY OTHER ERITREAN INSURGENT CAPTIVES. KISSINGER

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